

Winning the war on terrorism, a war that we face here and now, is infinitely more important than pouring concrete in Alaska or an extra \$1.3 billion into combating the least likely of threats.

We can take the time to perfect our technology and to reach understandings with Russia and China that will minimize the side-effects of missile defense. But we have precious little time to do what is essential: to win the war against terrorism, to dry up the supply of Russian materials or technology, or to prepare our military, our intelligence community, our health care system, and our first responders to deal with a chemical or biological weapons attack by the terrorists of tomorrow.

In the fury of the moment, Congress will let the President have the final say on the use of these funds. So be it. It will be up to the President to take the sensible course.

In the midst of a war, let us not be diverted by the least likely threat. Let us turn our attention, our energies, and our resources to winning the war that is upon us, and to building our defenses against terrorism of all sorts.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of morning business with Senators allowed to speak therein for a period not to exceed 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE RESPONSE TO TERRORISM

Mr. WELLSTONE. Madam President, I would like to, in 10 minutes, cover three topics. First, I want to talk a little bit about September 11 and now. And I want to just say, in an ironic way—not bitterly ironic—the days I have had in Minnesota have maybe been some of the better days I have had because—and I am not putting words in anybody's mouth; and I do not do damage to the truth; I have too much respect for people, even when we disagree—most of the people with whom I have spoken back in Minnesota have said a couple things.

First of all, they have said we need to do a better job of defending ourselves. Who can disagree with that? Second of all, they have said—they have not been jingoistic; and they have not said we need to bomb now—we need to do this the right away. Many of them have expressed concern that we not let terrorists define our morality and that we should take every step possible to minimize the loss of life of innocent civilians in Afghanistan, or any other country, starting with innocent children. I am proud of people in Minnesota for saying that.

People in Minnesota have also said they understand this is not going to be one military action. They know this is going to be a long struggle. They know we are going to need a lot of coopera-

tion from a lot of other countries. They think it should be international.

Above and beyond the way people come together to support each other, I am so impressed with the way I think people are really thinking deeply about this and want us to stay consistent with our own values as a nation. I just want to say that. That is my view.

I find myself kind of on two ends of the continuum. I had a discussion with some friends who were telling me that I should speak out more about the underlying conditions and causes of this violence, this hatred and violence. I told them there is a divide between us because I cannot do that because there are no conditions or explanations or justification for the mass murder of innocent people. I do not even like to talk about war because I do not think warriors murder people. Warriors are not involved in the slaughter of innocent people; criminals are.

A second point, which now gets closer to the defense authorization bill: On economic recovery, we have to really focus on economic security. I believe, and will always believe, we should have included assistance for employees in the package we passed last Friday.

I say to the Senator from Massachusetts, when I went home to Minnesota, I heard about that. People were not bitterly angry, but they said: How could that happen to us and our families who are out of work? That has to be a priority, along with safety, to get help to employees.

I would argue, maybe it is a sequence; you can't do everything at one time. It is easier to give a speech than to actually do it. But above and beyond help for employees and employment benefits and making sure people can afford health care needs and making sure there is job training and dislocated worker funding and, I would argue, having to deal with some child care expenses, I want to say one other thing. The truth is, I think we have to also think about an economic recovery package. And that should include, I say to my colleague from New Jersey, a workforce recovery package because not only are we going to need to extend the lifeline to people by way of helping them—when people are flat on their back, Government helps them; that is what Government is for—it is also true that that is part of an economic stimulus because you do not want to have a lot of people—people who work in hotels and restaurants and small businesspeople, all of whom now are really hurting—you do not want to have a whole lot of people shut down and not able to consume at all.

So we need to think about this package in broader terms as well. Finally, on the defense authorization bill, if I had my own way, there are at least a couple of provisions I wish were in it. One of them Senator LEVIN worked so hard on, and other colleagues support it. It made it clear that if President Bush requested funding for missile defense tests that violated the ABM

Treaty, he would need congressional approval to spend those funds. I wanted that language in this bill in the worst way. If I had time, I would argue over and over again, but I don't want to impose my own agenda on what our country is facing right now. But we need to reorder some of our priorities, and clearly more of the money—some of the money in this bill that I don't think we need for certain items I would put into homeland defense and helping families with economic security.

I think there are a lot of threats our country is faced with that come way before a rogue nation sending missiles our way by suitcase, by boat, by plane, chemical, biological—there are lots of other threats with a much higher priority. I wish we hadn't dropped that language. I understand that the majority leader and Senator LEVIN and others made a commitment that we will come back to that language and that provision.

I believe missile defense doesn't make the world more secure; it makes it less secure for our children, grandchildren, and for all God's children. I could argue that for the next 5 hours. I don't have 5 hours.

I congratulate Senators on both sides of the aisle for the way in which we have worked together. We probably need each other as never before. There will be some sharp disagreement on policy issues—some of the issues that deal with education and health care, prescription drugs, you name it. Frankly, I am sure there will be questions many of us have as we go forward. But for right now, I want to just dissent on missile defense and say to my colleagues we need to get back to that debate. I think we are going to have to see more of an emphasis on priorities, including some of the money from some weapons systems that are not necessary to what we are talking about now by way of our own national security and homeland defense.

I say to Senator LEVIN and others, I appreciate the additional support for the armed services, especially when they are about to go into harm's way. I want to say to every Senator that we did not do well for too many people in this package for the industry, which was necessary. I don't think the companies and CEOs were crying wolf, but we didn't help the employees, and the economic security of these working families has to be the next step, along with safety. That has to happen soon.

Finally, I believe we are going to have to have a broader workforce recovery bill as part of economic recovery legislation, as a part of how we deal with this recession in hard economic times, because there are a lot of other people who are really hurting right now. The Government should be there to help people when they are flat on their backs through no fault of their own. That is going to be a big part of our work as well.